

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:RBRADKE
APPROVED BY EUR/EE:CWSCHMIDT
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, CZ, UR

SUBJECT: TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET INVASION OF
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. DURING AN AUGUST 18 CALL BY CZECHOSLOVAK DCM KUKAN ON
EUR/EE DIRECTOR (SCHMIDT), KUKAN RAISED SUBJECT OF RECENTLY
INTRODUCED CONGRESSIONAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION WHICH
CRITICIZES 1968 SOVIET INVASION AND CALLS FOR THE U.S. TO
RE-EXAMINE ITS TRADE WITH COUNTRIES WHICH PARTICIPATED IN
THE INVASION UNLESS SOVIET TROOPS ARE WITHDRAWN BY DECEMBER
1978. KUKAN SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH THIS RESOLUTION WAS
DIRECTED AT SOVIET UNION, IT CONTAINED LANGUAGE WHICH HAS
OFFENSIVE TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA. KUKAN SAID THAT THOSE WHO
WITNESSED EVENTS OF AUGUST 1968 KNEW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
"OCCUPATION" AND "FRIENDLY ASSISTANCE". HE ASKED FOR THE
STATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW OF THE RESOLUTIONS. IN RESPONSE,
SCHMIDT SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD, AS A MATTER OF ROUTINE,
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RECEIVED THE TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION FROM THE CONGRESS. HOW-
EVER, THE DEPARTMENT HAD NOT YET COMMENTED ON IT.

2. SCHMIDT NOTED THAT, IN THIS CONTEXT, EXTRA SECURITY
COVERAGE WHICH THE EMBASSY HAD REQUESTED FOR THE CZECHO-
SLOVAK CHANCERY DURING THE PERIOD OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY
HAD BEEN ARRANGED. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, KUKAN SAID

THAT THERE HAD BEEN INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST OFFICIAL
CZECHOSLOVAK PREMISES IN WEST GERMANY, BUT THAT NO TROUBLE
WAS EXPECTED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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